

Appln No. 10/656,086
Amdt date June 12, 2007
Reply to Office action of March 15, 2007

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3-13, and 31-34 remain in this application with claims 14-19 withdrawn as directed to a non-elected species of solvent.

In the Office action dated March 15, 2007, claims 3-5, 9, and 32 were deemed allowable. Claims 3, 9 and 32 have been amended to independent form. Claims 4 and 5 have been amended to depend from allowable claim 3, and since claim 3 is now limited to an electrolyte including a sulfone of Formula (1), claim 4 was amended further to include only those sulfones that fall within Formula (1). Applicant submits that these claims are allowable.

In the Office action, the examiner cited Chaloner-Gill et al. in rejecting claims 1, 6-8, 10-13, 31, and 33-34 on the assertion that Chaloner-Gill et al. teach an electrolyte that includes sulfolane as a solvent. It is noted that sulfolane is a sulfone of Formula (2) where p is 0. In order to hasten allowance of this application, applicant has amended claim 1 to remove the Formula (2) sulfones, and therefore, claim 1 is now allowable over the cited art. Similarly, claims 2, 5-8, 10-13, 31, 33, and 34 are allowable due to their dependency on allowable claim 1. In making this amendment, applicant reserves the right to pursue claims containing canceled subject matter in one or more continuation applications.

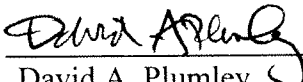
Turning to claims 14-19, while such claims have been withdrawn as elected to non-elected species of solvents, since claim 1 is generic as to the type of solvent, applicant requests the allowance of claims 14-19.

Claims 1, 3-13, and 31-34 remain in this application with claims 14-19 withdrawn. Based on the amendments presented with this response and the corresponding arguments set forth above, applicant submits that all claims are now allowable. However, if there are any

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remaining questions, applicant requests that the examiner contact applicant's counsel at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,
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